THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) According to the updated estimates of GDP compiled by the Central Statistical Organisation, the value addition in the Agriculture & Allied Sector consisting of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Forestry and Fishing has increased from Rs. 2.41,967 Crores in 1993-94 to Rs. 2,92,644 Crores in 1999-2000, measured at 1993-94 prices, registering thereby an average growth of 3.2% per year. The decline in the share of Agriculture in GDP is due to relatively higher growth in the other sectors of the economy.

As a result of process of economic growth and development, the share of Agriculture Sector in GDP tends to decline. However, several schemes are being implemented to increase production and productivity of agriculture. The National Agenda for Governance also envisages doubling food production in the next ten years, for which purpose a regionally differentiated strategy based on different agro-climatic zones, has been worked out. Implementation of this strategy would also ensure a higher growth of agriculture.

Fish Production in Orissa

2325. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope to increase fish production in Orissa;

(b) if so, steps taken in that direction during the last three years; and

(c) the Central allocation made to Orissa for the purpose during these years alongwith the steps proposed to be taken in that regard in Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is a vast scope to increase fish production in Orissa. The following Centrally Sponsored Schemes are implemented in the marine, brackishwater and freshwater sectors, *inter alia* to develop fisheries and aquaculture and for sustainable exploitation of the fishery resources of the State:-

(i) Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries through:

  (a) Motorisation of Traditional Crafts; and

  (b) Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on HSD purchased by Motorised Fishing Vessels of overall length below 20 meters.

(ii) Integrated Development of Coastal Aquaculture.

(iii) Providing Fishing Harbour Facilities at Major and Minor Ports and Fish Landing Centres.

(iv) Development of Freshwater Aquaculture

(v) Training and Extension

(vi) National Welfare of Fishermen

(c) The Central funds released to Orissa for the above referred Schemes during the last three years is as follows:-

Years	Rs. in lakhs
1996-97	404.71
1997-98	287.75
1998-99	30.67

All these Schemes are being continued in the remaining years of the Ninth Plan.

Deep Sea Fishing

2326. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister ot AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any step to ban deep sea fishing by foreign vessels and to cancel all the licences issued to foreign vessels;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the steps taken by Government to implement the recommendations of the Murari Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) As per the recommendations of the Committee to Review Deep Sea Fishing Policy, the Deep Sea Fishing Policy of 1991 has been rescinded. Under the Charter Scheme, no permits are presently valid. No renewal, extension or new licences have since been granted under Joint Venture and Lease Schemes. Cases of Joint Venture and leasing, where violations of the MZI Act, Rules or terms and conditions were reported, were referred to the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs. On their advice, permits for two vessels under Lease Scheme have been cancelled.